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Division of General Merritt's corps
out of thick woods. We had a line
men demoralized for the purpose,
command fought on this line.
a strong fight with a weak line of
formed by Lillie's brigade, of Gordon's
formed a regular line of battle and ad-
dled, Fifth and Sixth United States regulars
Pennsylvania regiments here did most of

Brigadier General Dennison, commanding the Maryland brigade, I learn was slightly wounded. Major Mills, of General Humphreys' staff, was killed. The same shot that killed Major Mills also killed the horse of Major Heap, commanding the regular Engineer battalion attached to General Meade's headquarters. Major Heap fortunately escaped uninjured.

THE ENGINEER BATTALION,

In this connection I will speak of the immense amount

tion. Copious showers in the fore part of the day intensified the difficulty; but I am happy to say that the invincible determination of Gen. Grant and almost superhuman toil of the men have at length overcome these difficulties, as they will in future, through the agency of the same unyielding purpose and unremitting toil, be overcome, till the object of the movement is fully and satisfactorily accomplished.

COMMENCEMENT OF THE ACTION.

The morning hours rolled away without the sound of a

Officers of our picket guard report that the enemy have negro soldiers on their picket line in our front. From deserters, who are constantly coming in we learn that the enemy before us is composed entirely of

his own authority he would shoot him, but if on the authority of the Provost Marshal he would shoot the latter. The corporal accompanied Captain to Captain Carruthers, and the

doubt been for him, but it is impossible to
been done. Daylight will probably reveal a fearful scene
of carnage and blood. Gordon's corps covered them.

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